

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, do you think we can handle this bill in 15 minutes, half an hour, something like that?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes.

SPEAKER NICHOL: All right, we will go on with it then, LB 548.

CLERK: Mr. President, 548 was a bill offered by Senator Landis. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 22 of last year, referred to the Miscellaneous Subjects Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. There are Miscellaneous Subjects Committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hefner, please.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, this bill, LB 548, harmonizes the definition in the Political Accountability and Disclosure Act and eliminates the conflict of interest sections on contracts passed with LB 692 that we passed a couple years ago. Now, it appears in separate statutes in regards to the cities, counties, NRDs and other local subdivisions of government. The committee amendments do five things. The definitions in the bill are stricken and the definitions used in the Political Accountability and Disclosure Act are used to provide for uniformity. The definitions concern persons who are considered immediate family. The bill regulates contracts awarded to officials and their immediate family members. Number two, any person who has been employed in the past under a procedure different from that outlined in the bill is allowed to continue their employment. And then the third section prohibits any public official from using that person's office to obtain financial gain other than compensation provided by law. However, however, it does not prohibit it from voting, deliberating or taking other actions. And then the other two sections in the committee amendment contain technical and harmonizing amendments so it will be more in harmony with the remainder of the Political and Accountability Disclosure Act. I move the committee amendments.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, did you wish to say something about that?